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Chairman: Mr. MacKay ..... (New Zealand)
Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: Mr. Kuznetsov

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Agenda item 115: Joint Inspection Unit (A/59/34, A/59/75, and A/59/349; A/C.5/59/CRP.1)

1. **Mr. Gorita** (Chairman, Joint Inspection Unit) introduced the annual report of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) for 2003 (A/59/34), briefly outlining the various chapters as well as the Unit's programme of work for 2004 (A/59/75). He pointed out that there were changes in the format and content of the report which JIU had endeavoured to make more informative and substantive, as requested by the Member States. It dealt, in particular, with the efforts made by JIU to continue its reform in order to produce reports of improved quality which better met the requirements of the Member States and it included examples of the follow-up actions taken on the recommendations of the Unit. Starting the following year, the Unit intended to combine the annual report and the programme of work into a single document.

2. A new and innovative approach had been taken in the preparation of the work programme for 2004. In selecting the subjects for inclusion, the Unit had endeavoured to ensure that certain criteria were met. For example, the subjects selected had to be of high priority for the United Nations system and the reports thereon should ensure coordination with OIOS and the Board of Auditors, and meet clear quality standards. Six of the nine reports or notes were system-wide in scope.

3. JIU had reviewed possible efficiency improvements in the delivery of programmes as well as economies of scale that could lead to cost reductions. It had also focused on issues of safety and security within the Organization.

4. One of the notes proposed, addressed to the International Labour Office, would contain elements on knowledge management that were applicable to other agencies. JIU would ensure that such information reached those bodies. Another report was geared towards assessing the management and administration of the Pan American Health Organization, the World Health Organization's Latin American office, as part of a series of management reviews of participating organizations. At the request of Member States, the Unit was also reviewing the management, administration and activities of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.

5. The main measures taken by JIU to continue its reform efforts were described in document A/C.5/59/CRP.1. In order to enhance the quality and relevance of its work, JIU had devised a new methodology for the management assessments and risk assessments of the various participating organizations, and the secretariats of the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations had been asked to provide the anticipated future agendas of the various legislative bodies.

6. While the effects of the internal reforms would only be felt in 2005, JIU had been encouraged by the positive comments on the series of reports it had devoted to results-based management and its review of the management and administration of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. It was currently initiating a training programme for the staff of the Secretariat which, it was hoped, would familiarize them with the latest evaluation and inspection techniques.

7. **Ms. Mabutas** (Director, Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management) introduced the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/59/349) with reference to the administration of justice at the United Nations, the delegation of authority for management of human and financial resources, results-based budgeting and the employment of young professionals in selected organizations of the United Nations system, pointing out that substantial progress had been achieved towards the implementation of the majority of the recommendations accepted by the Secretary-General.

8. She recalled that the Committee had been asked to consider whether there was a need for the report in view of the system for the follow-up of reports proposed in annex I to the report submitted by the Joint Inspection Unit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session (A/52/34). The system, inter alia, required the executive heads of the organizations concerned to inform JIU of progress in implementing approved and accepted recommendations. It also provided for JIU to include that information in its annual report together with analysis on the implementation of its recommendations. In other words, the Unit would be able to provide the Committee with a more comprehensive picture of how its recommendations were being implemented, not just by the United Nations but by other organizations of the

United Nations system. In endorsing the new system by resolution 54/16, the General Assembly had not explicitly rescinded the obligation of the Secretary-General under the previous series of resolutions of the General Assembly to report on that matter, in particular paragraph 7 of resolution 2924 B (XXVII) of 24 November 1972, to report on the status of implementation of the JIU recommendations.

9. Since the new system had been endorsed in 1999, the report duplicated in another way because the information presented would normally already have been conveyed to the General Assembly in other reports. For instance, the updates on the administration of justice presented in the current year's report had already been extensively discussed in the document entitled "Administration of justice in the Secretariat" (A/56/800). The General Assembly was therefore invited to determine whether the system of monitoring JIU reports as endorsed by resolution 54/16 meant that the preparation by the Secretary-General of a report on the same subject was superfluous.

10. **Mr. Elkhuizen** (Netherlands), speaking on behalf of the European Union, the candidate countries Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania and Turkey, the countries of the Stabilization and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and, in addition, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Free Trade Association, said that his delegation regretted that the Joint Inspection Unit, a fundamental tool to enhance the efficiency of the United Nations system, had not yet lived up to expectations. That was why the Fifth Committee had for several years criticized the Unit, and also why the members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination had the previous year called for an in-depth review of the statute and working methods of the Unit. The inspectors had undertaken measures to improve their working methods and had also sought decisions by the General Assembly on much-needed structural reforms.

11. The essential objective of the reform was to ensure that the work of the Unit was relevant to the needs of the participating organizations. To that end, it was necessary to ensure that the right people were selected to serve as inspectors and that the Unit should perform its work in an exemplary manner, to achieve maximum cost-effectiveness. The Unit must also increase its interactions with participating organizations and other bodies of the United Nations system. His delegation believed that those objectives necessitated changes to the statute of the Unit.

12. His delegation regretted that the resistance that had emerged in the Fifth Committee had prevented consensus on the reform of the Unit. The decision taken the previous autumn not to appropriate funds for the Unit for 2005 in the budget resolution had been taken in order to ensure that the momentum for the reform of the Unit was not lost. The time had come for the Committee to take a decision on that issue, and it should do so during the main part of the current session.

13. His delegation welcomed the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/59/349), and took note of the annual report of the Unit for 2003 (A/59/34). It also welcomed the improved format of the annual report and the decision by the Unit to merge that report, in the following year, with the report on its programme of work. It noted with interest that the Unit would in future include baseline data in its reports, and took note of the document in which it transmitted to the Assembly its programme of work for 2004 (A/59/75).

14. **Mr. Al-Ansari** (Qatar), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, noted that the programme of work of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2004 was both relevant and useful. The chosen topics were pertinent to the United Nations system as a whole and the reports on those topics would enhance the effectiveness of the entire United Nations system. Over the past year, the Unit had made commendable efforts to reform its working methods and had made suggestions aimed at improving the quality of its reports. It had proposed tools and methodology for the selection of topics and the validation of its conclusions and recommendations on the basis of its collective wisdom. It had also developed a strategic framework to guide its work. He welcomed the additional measures taken by the Unit in the context of its internal reform, described in document A/C.5/59/CRP.1. It was gratifying that the Unit had held systematic consultations with participating organizations from the early stages of the preparation of its reports. As for the reports directly relevant to the General Assembly, the Group of 77 called upon all delegations to involve themselves actively in the framing of the Unit's programme of work; that was the only way to ensure its pertinence.

The Unit itself should ensure that its reports were prepared on topical issues in order to impact positively on the work of the General Assembly.

15. He emphasized that reform was a continuous process. The Unit was therefore encouraged to continue its efforts at reform of its working methods, particularly by implementing all the provisions of its statute, empowering its Chairman to exercise overall responsibility for the Unit's activities, and improving the quality of its reports.

16. **Mr. Iosifov** (Russian Federation) said that his delegation attached particular importance to the work of the Unit, which should improve the efficiency of its work and ensure that it corresponded more closely to the expectations of Member States. It was the only external audit body tasked with reporting to Member States on the way in which United Nations bodies managed the resources allocated to them. The Unit must fulfil to the utmost the responsibilities entrusted to it under its statute. The most rational way to undertake the reform of the Unit would be to give it, through the adoption of appropriate General Assembly resolutions, but without modifying its statute, the following goals: more effective execution of the tasks entrusted to it, reorganization of its working methods, updating of the topics it dealt with and enhancement of the quality of its reports. A requirement to which his delegation attached particular importance was that Member States should make an appropriate assessment of the Unit's efficiency. As could be seen from the note prepared by the Unit concerning the consideration of its statute and working methods (A/C.5/59/CRP.1), its members were fully aware of the need to improve working methods. The series of documents produced by the Unit on the subject of current management problems showed that the criticism that had been levelled at the Unit had not gone unheard. After some time had elapsed, the General Assembly should re-examine the issue of the Unit's efficiency and assess the implementation of its recommendations concerning the reform of the Unit. Once all the possible means of improvement had been explored, consideration could be given to modifying the Unit's statute. His delegation was prepared to take part in the drafting of a resolution on that matter. It could not, however, agree that the discussion of the agenda item in question and the adoption of the Unit's proposed budget for 2005 should be linked. To create such a linkage would have negative repercussions on future discussions.

17. **Mr. Niang** (Senegal) said that all the measures taken by the Unit as described in document A/C.5/59/CRP.1 were well thought out and fitted perfectly into the process of revitalization and reform of the main organs of the United Nations system. He welcomed the fact that the Unit had entered into consultations before selecting the items to be included in its programme of work, as well as its declared intention of improving the quality of its reports, notably through better expertise in its evaluation methods and data-collection techniques. Regarding the status of the inspectors, it was more imperative than ever to maintain the tried and tested rules governing their appointment, rather than seek to turn them into auditors. Like many other delegations, his was of the view that inspectors should possess a solid grounding in the fields of finance and budgeting, as well as experience in international diplomacy, which would give them a sound grasp of the way the United Nations system functioned. The current number of 11 inspectors must be maintained in order to keep the geographical balance. The increased number of research assistants could be a positive reform, reinforcing as it did the capacity for intervention of the team of inspectors. Senegal was committed to supporting any useful reform of the Unit so long as it was founded on a methodical, rigorous and transparent approach and was not prejudicial to the functioning of an entity that was vital to the proper working of the Organization.

18. **Mr. Berti Oliva** (Cuba) associated himself with the statement made on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. He welcomed the proposal to group together in a single document the annual report of the Unit and the report on its programme of work, the main value of such a step being that it would provide an overview of the Unit's activities and projects. He welcomed the efforts deployed to improve the Unit's working methods and the quality of its reports and observed that the reports should be the responsibility of the Unit as a whole, pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 9 of resolution 56/245. It was necessary in future to avoid issuing reports under the sole responsibility of their authors, as with the report referred to in paragraph 12 of the annual report.

19. The Cuban delegation noted with interest that the Joint Inspection Unit was currently preparing a method that would enable it better to grasp the impact of its recommendations, but noted that only measures taken

by a few participating organizations were mentioned in the annual report (A/59/34). It also commended the Unit's efforts to work in closer coordination with the United Nations Board of Auditors and the Office of Internal Oversight Services.

20. Regarding the programme of work of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/59/75), his delegation observed that the Unit had undertaken broad consultations with participating organizations, and noted with interest the method employed in selecting the items it would be addressing. Concerning the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/59/349), his delegation wondered whether there were grounds for going back over recommendations dating from previous sessions. Paragraph 20 of the report implied that the Joint Inspection Unit's recommendations on the delegation of authority for the management of human and financial resources in the United Nations Secretariat were no longer pertinent, which did not seem reasonable. Moreover, noting that the proposed intention was no longer to present all the reports provided for by the system of follow-up to the reports of the Unit instituted by resolution 54/16, his delegation sought confirmation that the reports indeed constituted duplication, in which case it was prepared to consider the Secretary-General's proposal.

21. In conclusion, his delegation opposed the artificial grouping of the agenda item on the Joint Inspection Unit with other items, which could damage the constructive spirit that prevailed in the deliberations of the Fifth Committee.

22. **Mr. Kutty** (India) endorsed the statement made on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. Regarding the programme of work (A/59/75), he said that the Unit had made commendable progress in developing processes and tools that would enable it to report on topics of concern to the entire United Nations system. The Unit had selected five criteria for improving the focus of its activity and had established a verification checklist based on its strategic framework. The Unit's collective wisdom brought to the selection of topics could only enhance its collective responsibility. His delegation welcomed the choice of topics for 2004, including the review of inter-agency coordination mechanisms and enhancing collaboration and coordination among United Nations agencies in Africa.

23. Turning to the reform of the Unit, he noted that of the 22 topics envisaged, 17 had originated with secretariats of participating organizations, clearly demonstrating the value those organizations placed on the Unit's work. The participating organizations also financed 68 per cent of the Unit's budget, and the World Tourism Organization had joined their ranks. Several of them had created mechanisms to ensure that the Unit's recommendations were followed up, and according to the report in document A/59/349 most of those recommendations were being implemented.

24. The quality of the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit had not always been consistent for various reasons: lack of guidance from the General Assembly on the choice of topics, absence of internal mechanisms for validation and exercise of collective wisdom, and the limited powers of the Chairman. The Unit had taken steps to improve the situation, and the adoption of proposals previously put forward by the Group of 77 would go a long way in that direction.

25. **Mr. Obame** (Gabon) endorsed the statement made on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. His delegation was in favour of strengthening the external and internal oversight bodies and welcomed the fact that the Unit's thinking and effort at reform were beginning to bear fruit; the finalization of the internal procedures aimed at complementing the 1996 rules and guidelines was a step in the right direction. His delegation noted that the Unit's programme of work took both the inspectors' and the participating organizations' wishes into account. In that regard, it was gratifying that the strengthening of collaboration and coordination among the United Nations agencies in Africa was one of the topics included in the Unit's programme of work, attesting to its concern to avoid overlapping and waste. The strengthening of the Unit called for an in-depth review of its working methods, but it was also necessary to ensure that its Chairman could exercise the prerogatives needed for better coordination of its work.

26. **Mr. Abbas** (Pakistan), endorsing the statement made on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, observed that the work of JIU, the only system-wide oversight body, had a direct bearing on the efficiency of the United Nations agencies and that Member States would do well to enhance its oversight capacity in order to prevent losses, preserve the integrity of the system and enhance its performance in the most cost-effective way.

The question of the effectiveness of the Unit was therefore paramount.

27. The Unit had introduced a strategic framework to provide a clear vision and a solid basis for improving its operation. Furthermore, the new methodology, the checklist and the comprehensive manual referred to in the note concerning its statute and methods of work (A/C.5/59/CRP.1) would result in better performance and would ultimately improve oversight functions.

28. His delegation wanted the JIU team to be highly competent and effective and felt that the introduction of internal working procedures was a step in the right direction. It was ready to consider the ideas related to the process for selecting inspectors, enhancing the role of the Chairman and the exercise of collective wisdom. It considered that JIU should further develop its internal standards and working procedures and that the Member States should also provide it with the necessary latitude, guidance and time to consolidate the previously proposed reforms. There was no need to revise its statute.

29. Objective criteria should be formulated as a matter of urgency for the selection of topics for forthcoming JIU reports. Efforts had already been made to ensure that its work programme was more relevant to the needs of Member States but JIU should continue to focus on concrete questions in order to be able to submit practical recommendations to the General Assembly and other legislative organs of participating organizations. His delegation noted that JIU intended to strengthen its coordination with other internal and external oversight bodies with a view to improving oversight services and preventing duplication. There was also a need for JIU to strengthen its follow-up mechanisms and intensify its dialogue with participating organizations.

30. **Mr. Kramer** (Canada), speaking on behalf of Australia, New Zealand and Canada, asked what was the position of the Secretary-General concerning the observations made by the Unit in its report on the harmonization of the statutes of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal and the Administrative Tribunal of the International Labour Organization (A/59/280), to the effect that partial harmonization of the practices of the two tribunals would be possible, bearing in mind that the Secretary-General maintained his position in the report on the work programme (A/59/349) that there was no question of acting on the JIU recommendation that the United Nations Administrative Tribunal should, like the ILO Administrative Tribunal, have discretionary authority to order rescission of contested decisions and to award compensation unless the statutes and practices of the two tribunals were fully harmonized. He also wondered whether the Secretariat had quantitative data on the number of cases dealt with by the United Nations Administrative Tribunal which might bear on the decision whether or not to create a post of Deputy Secretary, and asked about the status of the delegation of authority in the organization, the redefinition of the relevant role of the Department of Management and of executive offices, their staffing, and the simplification of administrative procedures, which were matters addressed by the Secretary-General in his report (A/58/351).

31. The Canadian delegation was surprised that the work programme of the joint inspection unit for 2004 should be submitted to the Fifth Committee for consideration towards the end of the year and would prefer future programmes of work to be submitted in advance. With reference to the reform of the Unit, his delegation took the view that it was time for the Member States to reach an understanding on the way ahead, in particular with respect to aspects relating to raising the qualifications of inspectors which it ought to be possible to verify objectively, to the introduction of a selection machinery for candidates and to the strengthening of the role of the Chairman of the Unit, particularly with respect to quality control. His delegation also considered, as the Unit itself had suggested in its report (A/58/343), that the number of inspectors should be reduced.

32. **Mr. Repasch** (United States of America) noted the changes made in the presentation of the information and was encouraged by the content of chapter I of the report (A/59/34) which seemed to indicate that JIU attached due importance to the question of its reform. Like the European Union, the United States delegation supported the JIU reform. Although it regretted not having been informed earlier of the work programme, it fully appreciated the difficulty involved in that the Unit could not satisfy all participating organizations because their work programmes did not necessarily correspond. His delegation hoped nevertheless that JIU would provide Member States with timely information on the studies it undertook.

33. The United States delegation noted that document JIU/REP/2003/5, which concerned the means of achieving universal access to primary education, had been issued under the sole responsibility of its author as provided in article 11, paragraph 2, of the JIU statute, thus suggesting that it did not meet minimal quality standards. With respect to document A/59/349, his delegation shared the opinion of the Secretary-General to the effect that such a report duplicated the information given in the annual JIU report on the implementation of its recommendations. Bearing in mind the cost of preparing a report, his delegation considered that the Secretariat ought, on the one hand, to have submitted a more concise document and, on the other, should have included the report among the items to be deleted from the Organization's programme budget.

34. **Mr. Ng'Ongolo** (United Republic of Tanzania) associated himself fully with the statement made by the representative of Qatar on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and also agreed with some points made by the representative of the Netherlands on behalf of the European Union. He considered that there was a need to ensure that the work of the Unit was relevant to the participating organizations and to ensure that the inspectors were fully qualified to perform their functions. The problems that had emerged suggested that the provisions of the JIU statute were not being fully implemented and that, while it was important to reform the Unit, that did not imply that there was a need to amend the statute.

35. **Mr. Eljy** (Syrian Arab Republic), endorsing the statement made on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that he attached considerable importance to the work of JIU, which was the only external oversight body concerned with the entire United Nations system. He would have welcomed greater detail in the report on the implementation of the recommendations of the JIU (A/59/349). However, he was pleased to note that JIU was striving to enhance its working methods and to improve its efficiency, as reflected in the new approach to drawing up the programme of work and the improved quality of the reports submitted. His delegation intended to participate in the efforts to reform JIU, but saw no advantage in changing the Unit's statute. It also wished to stress the importance of the collective wisdom principle, and did not see the purpose of reports that had not been collectively approved.

36. Noting the good relations that had been established between the executive heads of the various organizations and JIU, he urged the Secretariat of the United Nations to follow suit and to implement the recommendations of the JIU as soon as possible. With respect to the budget for 2005, his delegation would welcome an increase in financial and human resources.

37. **Mr. Ramlal** (Trinidad and Tobago) said that he, like the Group of 77 and China, did not wish the question of JIU reform to be considered together with other agenda items, as the Committee might, as a result, fail to do justice to the merits of each item. Moreover, his delegation felt that the importance attached by the Group of 77 and China to the oversight functions of JIU was all the more justified in the light of the increases in the regular budget of the Organization and the budgets of the peacekeeping operations. It was therefore vitally important to pursue the reform of JIU in order to make it more efficient. His delegation welcomed the fact that the Unit had adopted a strategic framework and new working methods and was resolved to implement its recommendations in a more practical manner in order to increase its usefulness to the United Nations system as a whole. It was aware that much remained to be done to strengthen JIU and was therefore in favour of resolving certain points raised by the European Union and by the Group of 77 and China, such as the qualifications of the inspectors and the procedure used to hire them, the role of the Chairman, and the collective wisdom principle.

38. **Mr. Kozaki** (Japan) said that the mission assigned to JIU, which was to monitor the actions of United Nations agencies and evaluate, with complete independence and impartiality, how efficiently they carried out their mandates, was more crucial than ever, in view of the increases in the regular budget of the Organization and the budget of the peacekeeping operations. It must be recognized that neither the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) nor JIU had established common management procedures or criteria. Nor had they adopted system-wide guidelines on planning, programming, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation. Noting that inspectors should develop recommendations having practical applications, he said that of the 112 reports submitted by JIU between 1990 and 2003, only 42 had addressed system-wide or inter-agency issues, which meant that some reports

duplicated those of individual organizations' internal evaluation bodies. Apart from the evaluations assigned to one or two of them, inspectors should try to combine their efforts within the context of an annual evaluation to consider, for example, the situation of organizations whose resources had increased without an equivalent improvement in their efficiency, or to study cross-sectoral issues such as the mobilization and management of the resources of the various competent agencies (non-governmental organizations, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations agencies) in the context of emergencies, peacekeeping missions or regional programmes for sustainable development.

39. **Mr. Gorita** (Chairman of the Joint Inspection Unit), responding to the questions raised by delegations, said that JIU would continue to improve its working methods and its reports, and acknowledged that document A/59/34 was sometimes unclear about the monitoring of the implementation of its recommendations. However, JIU was currently examining, together with the Secretariat, how the latter might keep it informed about measures taken to implement its recommendations pursuant to resolution 54/16 of the General Assembly. It might therefore prove superfluous for the Secretariat to prepare a separate report on the question, since the information it contained would be available in the annual report of JIU. The institutions referred to in chapter III of document A/59/34, under the heading "Potential impact of Joint Inspection Unit recommendations — selected examples" were selected because they had put in place systems for monitoring and implementing the recommendations and were therefore able to keep the Unit well informed. JIU maintained contact with participating institutions with a view to ensuring that they applied the provisions of memorandums of understanding by which they committed themselves to implementing the recommendations that concerned them. It was currently concluding a memorandum of understanding with the World Tourism Organization (WTO), which had recently become a participating organization. JIU thus hoped to be in a position to present a more complete account of its activities in its future annual reports.

40. **Ms. Mabutas** (Director, Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management) said that document A/59/280/Add.1 answered the questions posed by Canada regarding the harmonization of the statutes of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal and the International Labour Organization Administrative Tribunal. With respect to the assessment of delegation of authority, which was addressed in paragraph 22 of document A/59/349, it appeared that the programme managers were generally pleased with the room for manoeuvre given to them, but that the situation was more mixed with respect to the sub-delegation of authority, with some departments preferring to retain a centralized approach. That questi would be the subject of more detailed assessment. The Secretariat had studied the recommendations contained in the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services regarding those elements that might be rationalized and intended to try out the proposed changes before extending them to the Organization as a whole. The Secretariat would address the question in a report that it would submit to the General Assembly concerning the progress of the overall programme of reforms.

41. **Mr. Kramer** (Canada) said he had been unaware that the General Assembly had requested a report on the progress of the programme of reforms. Regardless of how the information was submitted to Member States, he wished to be kept informed of the decisions taken, particularly with regard to departments' administrative services and staff numbers, since that was an issue of vital importance.

42. **Mr. Eljy** (Syrian Arab Republic) understood why the Secretariat was not yet able to respond to questions of substance, but was surprised that some of the JIU recommendations, which the Secretariat had claimed to have implemented, had in fact gone unheeded. That was notably the case with respect to the recommendations concerning the administration of justice and the implementation of a system for assigning responsibilities. His delegation intended to revisit the question when the Committee examined the issue of human resources management. It had taken note of the remarks of the JIU concerning the fact that the Secretariat did not always keep it informed about the follow-up to its recommendations. In view of the lack of transparency involved, that question should also be revisited.

43. **Ms. Mabutas** (Director, Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management) said that the Secretariat and JIU were determined to develop ways to communicate information concerning the implementation of the recommendations, with the goal

of establishing a more comprehensive system which would allow the information to be passed on more rapidly, thus ensuring that the legislative bodies were kept duly informed of changes in the situation.

The meeting rose at 11.45 a.m.